

IN THE CLAIMS

1-29. (cancelled)

30. (currently amended) An information processing method, comprising:

~~controlling input of first data associated with~~obtaining content data to be broadcast by digital broadcast transmission;

~~generating first control information, for controlling the deletion of the content data from a recording medium after the content data is received through the digital broadcast transmission and recorded onto the recording medium, the first control information for performing at least one of the following: the first control information specifying at least one condition selected from the group consisting of (a) directly indicating a time interval from the time of recording the content data at which the content data is to be deleted; (b) indicating a permitted number of times for copying the content data after which the content data is to be deleted; and (c) indicating a permitted number of times for reproducing the content data after which the content data is to be deleted; and (d) indicating that a charge for reproducing the content data changes in relation to the number of times the content data is reproduced;~~

~~inserting the first control information and the first data into a control message; and~~

~~outputting the control message for multiplexing with the content data for broadcast via the digital broadcast transmission~~

multiplexing the content data with the control message by a first information processing apparatus to produce multiplexed data and transmitting the multiplexed data via the digital broadcast transmission;

receiving and demultiplexing the multiplexed data by a second information processing apparatus to receive the first control information and the content data;

recording the received content data onto a recording medium by the second information processing apparatus; and

deleting the content data from the recording medium by the second information processing apparatus when the at least one condition specified by the first control information is met.

31. (cancelled)

32. (currently amended) ~~The method according to method as claimed in claim 30, wherein the first control information indicates specifies that a charge for reproducing the content data changes in relation to the number of times the content data is reproduced, and the first control information indicates a charging value to be divided by a number n when the content data is reproduced an nth time.~~

33. (currently amended) ~~The method according to method as claimed in claim 30, wherein the first control information indicates that the content data is to be deleted at the earliest of specifies the time interval, the time interval being at least one of (a) a time interval measured from the time of recording the content data received through a broadcast transmission, as indicated directly by the content data; and (b) after measured from a time at which the content data has been copied a permitted number of times.~~

34. (currently amended) ~~The method according to method as claimed in claim 30, further comprising encoding the content data, wherein the control message includes an entitlement control message (ECM), further comprising encoding the content data and the step of multiplexing the content data includes multiplexing the encoded content data with the ECM via an MPEG2 (Motion Picture Experts Group 2) transport stream.~~

35. (currently amended) The method according to method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the step of multiplexing the content data includes further comprising multiplexing the encoded content data in a carousel manner, and inserting at least a portion of the information of the control message into an adaptation header of a DII (Download Info Indication) packet of the digital broadcast transmission.

36. (currently amended) The method according to method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the step of multiplexing the content data includes further comprising multiplexing the content data in a carousel manner and inserting at least a portion of the information of the control message into an expire descriptor of a DII (Download Info Indication) packet of the digital broadcast transmission.

37-39. (cancelled)

40. (new) The information processing method as claimed in claim 30, wherein the first control information specifies a charging value to be charged for at least one of reproducing or copying the content data an nth time by the information processing apparatus.

41. (new) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

a receiver operable to receive a digital broadcast transmission and demultiplex the received transmission into content data and first control information; and

a data recording device coupled to the receiver, operable to record the content data and first control information onto a recording medium, wherein the first control information specifies at least one condition for deleting the content data from the recording medium, the condition selected from the group consisting of (a) a time interval from the time of recording the content data; (b) a permitted number of times for copying the

content data; and (c) a permitted number of times for reproducing the content data,

wherein the recording device is operable to delete the content data from the recording medium when the at least one condition specified by the recorded first control information is met.

42. (new) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 41, wherein the first control information specifies a charging value to be charged for at least one of reproducing or copying the content data an nth time by the information processing apparatus.

43. (new) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 41, wherein the at least one condition specified by the first control information includes the permitted number of times for reproducing the content data, and the first control information specifies a charging value to be divided in relation to a number n when the content data is reproduced an nth time.

44. (new) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 41, wherein the first control information specifies the time interval in relation to at least one of: (a) the time of recording the content data from the digital broadcast transmission; (b) the time of copying the content data a first time from the permitted number of times for copying the content data; or (c) the time of reproducing the content data a first time from the permitted number of times for reproducing the content data.

45. (new) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 41, wherein the first control information indicates the time interval and the time interval is measured from the final permitted time that the content data is copied from the permitted number of times for copying the content data.

46. (new) An information processing method, comprising:

receiving a digital broadcast transmission;
demultiplexing the received transmission into content data and first control information;
recording the content data and first control information onto a recording medium, wherein the first control information specifies at least one condition for deleting the content data from the recording medium, the condition selected from the group consisting of a) a time interval from the time of recording the content data; (b) a permitted number of times for copying the content data; and (c) a permitted number of times for reproducing the content data; and
deleting the content data from the recording medium when the at least one condition specified by the recorded first control information is met.

47. (new) The information processing method as claimed in claim 46, wherein the first control information specifies a charging value to be charged for at least one of reproducing or copying the content data an nth time by the information processing apparatus.

48. (new) The information processing method as claimed in claim 46, wherein the at least one condition specified by the first control information includes the permitted number of times for reproducing the content data, and the first control information specifies a charging value to be divided in relation to a number n when the content data is reproduced an nth time.

49. (new) The information processing method as claimed in claim 46, wherein the first control information specifies the time interval in relation to at least one of: (a) the time of recording the content data from the digital broadcast transmission; (b) the time of copying the content data a first time from the permitted number of times for copying the content data; or (c) the time of reproducing the content data a first

time from the permitted number of times for reproducing the content data.

50. (new) The information processing method as claimed in claim 46, wherein the first control information specifies the time interval and the time interval is measured from the final permitted time that the content data is copied from the permitted number of times for copying the content data.

51. (new) A recording medium having information recorded thereon for performing a method, the method comprising:

receiving a digital broadcast transmission;

demultiplexing the received transmission into content data and first control information;

recording the content data and first control information onto a recording medium, wherein the first control information specifies at least one condition for deleting the content data from the recording medium, the condition selected from the group consisting of a) a time interval from the time of recording the content data; (b) a permitted number of times for copying the content data; and (c) a permitted number of times for reproducing the content data; and

deleting the content data from the recording medium when the at least one condition specified by the recorded first control information is met.

52. (new) The recording medium as claimed in claim 51, wherein the first control information specifies a charging value to be charged for at least one of reproducing or copying the content data an nth time by the information processing apparatus.

53. (new) The recording medium as claimed in claim 51, wherein the at least one condition specified by the first control information includes the permitted number of times for reproducing the content data, and the first control information

specifies a charging value to be divided in relation to a number n when the content data is reproduced an n th time.

54. (new) The recording medium as claimed in claim 53, wherein the first control information specifies the time interval in relation to at least one of: (a) the time of recording the content data from the digital broadcast transmission; (b) the time of copying the content data a first time from the permitted number of times for copying the content data; or (c) the time of reproducing the content data a first time from the permitted number of times for reproducing the content data.

55. (new) The recording medium as claimed in claim 51, wherein the first control information indicates the time interval and the time interval is measured from the final permitted time that the content data is copied from the permitted number of times for copying the content data.